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WYOMING LABOR FORCE TRENDS

Vol. 26 No. 11 A Monthly Newsletter Published in Cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics November, 1989

Trend Setters

	Aug'89	Sept'89
Wyoming		
Labor Force	226,052	222,779
Employment	212,521	210,301
Unemployment	13,531	12,478
Rate (Raw)	6.0	5.6
Rate (S.A.)	7.0	7.0
Mining Hourly Wage	$13.87	$13.49
Avg. Weekly Hours, Mining	43.3	45.1
USA		
Rate (S.A.)	5.2	5.3
Mining Hourly Wage	$13.04	$13.19
Avg. Weekly Hours, Mining	42.8	43.0
Consumer Price Index		
All Urban (1982-1984 = 100)		
U.S. City Avg.	124.6	125.0
Year Change(U.S.)	+4.7	+4.3

S.A.-Seasonally Adjusted

In This Issue:

ACCRA Cost of Living Survey.

1988 Per Capita Personal Income.

U.S. Unemployment Changes Little in September

National unemployment, at a seasonally adjusted 5.3 percent in September, continued in the same 5.2-5.3 percent range it has maintained since April. The year ago rate was 5.4 percent. The September rate represents 6.6 million job seekers across the nation.

Adult women displaced adult men for the lowest unemployment, at 4.5 percent in September. The 16-19 year-olds continued with the highest rate, 15.1 percent.

U.S. Growth Continues in Service Industries

National nonagricultural payroll employment, as measured by the establishment survey, gained 2.9 million workers over the year in September. Virtually all of this growth, 2.6 million, took place in the service-producing sector. The goods-producing sectors of mining, construction, and manufacturing have remained relatively static.

In the service-producing sector, services was up annually by 1.3 million workers; trade, up 627 thousand; government, up 394 thousand; and finance, insurance, and real estate, up 147,000.

The seasonally adjusted number of employed in the U.S. was 117.5 million, up 2.1 million workers, or 1.8 percent.

Wyoming Unemployment Continues at 7.0 Percent

Wyoming seasonally adjusted unemployment continued at almost two full percentage points above the U.S. rate at 7.0 percent. Unemployment statewide has continued in the 7.0-7.1 percent range since July. The September rate was up a bit from the 6.7 percent of a year ago.

Unadjusted, the September rate of 5.6 percent was unchanged from a year earlier and declined seasonally from the August rate of 6.0 percent. The number of unemployed statewide, at 12,500 was down by over a thousand from August, and compared to 12,900 a year ago.

On an optimistic note, almost half, 11 of 23 counties in the state had lower unemployment over the year, and nine counties had lower unemployment rates than the U.S. seasonally unadjusted rate of 5.1 percent.

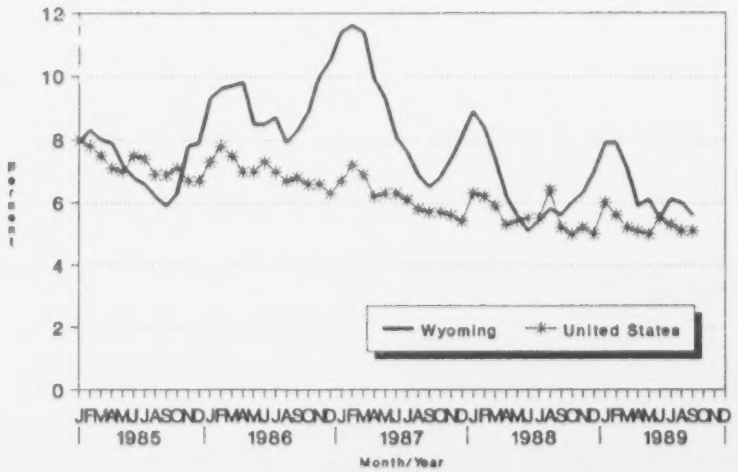
Statewide Employed Labor Force Down

In September, the statewide employed civilian labor force, at 210,300, continued down by about four percent from a year ago. The total worker count has fallen, on an annual average basis, every year since 1983 in Wyoming and it appears it will do so again in 1989 for the sixth consecutive year.

WY Service Follows U.S. Growth Trend

Wyoming, as the Nation, registered the largest annual industrial worker gain in services. In the state, this was

Unemployment Rate, Wyoming and the U.S.
Civilian Unadjusted
1985 - 1989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Wyoming
United States
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1985
1986
1987
1988
1989
Month/Year

concentrated in hotels and lodging places and, in all likelihood, limited to tourist orientated areas like Teton and Park counties. The Casper and Cheyenne areas, Natrona and Laramie counties, the only areas where current industrial employment is surveyed, indicated services employment was at about year ago levels.

In addition to services, smaller but notable increases were registered in transportation and utilities, local government, and retail trade. Finance, insurance, and real estate, wholesale trade, construction, and mining were all at or below year ago levels.

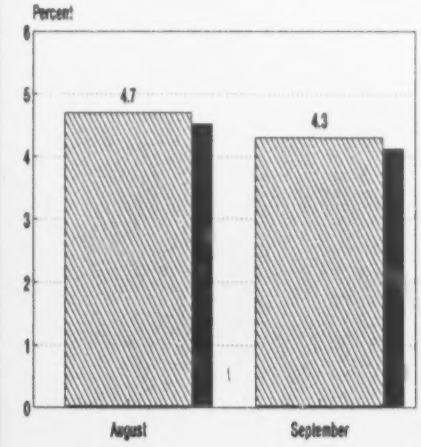
Jackson Hole Unemployment at 1.7%

The lowest unemployment in Wyoming, for the fourth consecutive month, continued in Teton County at 1.7 percent. This is almost half the year ago rate of 3.2 percent. Albany and Goshen counties followed at 3.1 and 3.3 percent.

Uinta County Unemployment Highest

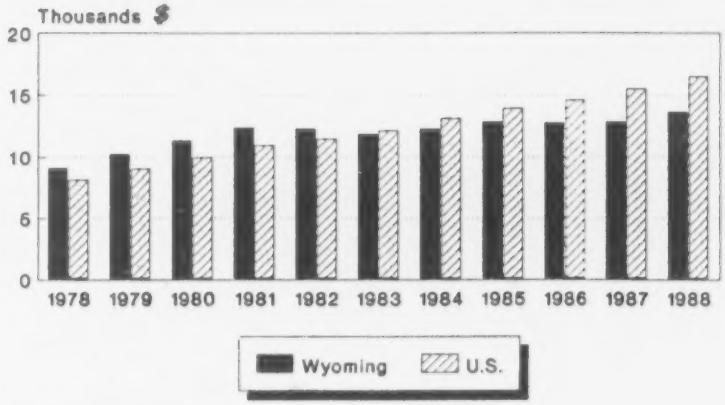
The Evanston area, Uinta County registered the highest unemployment, followed by Campbell and Fremont counties both at 7.2 percent. Laramie and Natrona counties had about the same number of unemployed, around 1,830, with rates of 5.6 and 6.4 percent.

Consumer Price Index
Annual Percent Change
All Urban



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Per Capita Personal Income
Wyoming and U.S.
1978 - 1988



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis.

Wyoming Per Capita Income Increases 6.0 Percent

Although Wyoming's per capita personal income (PCPI) increased a healthy 6.0 percent from 1987 to 1988, it was short of the national average increase of 6.6 percent. Since 1983 Wyoming's PCPI has fallen short of the national average and for 1988 the state's PCPI was $2,880 below that of the average American.

With the exception of 1988, over the year increases from 1983 to 1987 have been dismal. The 1985 to 1986 period actually saw a decrease of 0.8 percent in PCPI.

Back in the late seventies and early eighties Wyoming had annual increases in PCPI of over 10 percent. In 1978, PCPI increased 16.6 percent over the year in the Cowboy state.

Wyoming's 1988 PCPI of $13,609 ranked 38th out of 51 states. That is a far cry from the 6th ranking in 1979, 1980, and 1981.

Wyoming's 1988 average household income was also well below the national average. There were an estimated 2.58 persons per household in Wyoming and a household income of $35,111. That compares to the national average of 2.62 persons per household and an income of $43,201.

Wyoming has fallen 17 percent below the national average PCPI. It will be difficult to regain this lost ground, especially with the present growth that most of the U.S. is experiencing.

Per Capita Personal Income
Selected States & U.S. 1987-1988

	1988	1987	'87-'88 Percent Change	1988 Percent of U.S.	1988 Average Household Income
United States	$16,489	$15,472	6.6	100	$43,201
Colorado	16,463	15,680	5.0	100	43,792
Nebraska	14,774	14,100	4.8	90	37,083
Wyoming	*13,609*	*12,836*	*6.0*	*83*	*35,111*
Montana	12,866	12,304	4.6	78	35,382
South Dakota	12,755	12,414	2.7	77	34,056
Idaho	12,665	11,797	7.4	77	34,829
Utah	12,193	11,530	5.8	74	38,652

ACCRA* Cost of Living Comparisons - Second Quarter, 1989

Component Index Weights	ALL ITEMS 100%	GROCERIES 17%	HOUSING 22%	UTILITIES 11%	TRANSP. 13%	HEALTH CARE 7%	MISC. 30%
U.S. Average	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Wyoming Cities:							
Casper	91.2	101.3	72.4	93.5	87.8	98.4	98.2
Gillette	100.0	106.1	93.6	102.3	96.7	100.0	101.6
Laramie	100.3	105.0	102.1	91.4	102.0	101.6	98.4
Sheridan	95.4	107.3	82.2	96.7	96.6	95.9	97.3
Neighboring Cities:							
Missoula, MT	98.5	103.7	86.4	97.7	100.7	110.0	101.3
Denver, CO	103.9	95.5	117.9	89.9	101.4	113.8	102.4
Omaha, NE	92.2	89.6	88.2	87.5	112.3	85.2	91.3
Rapid City, SD	96.9	104.5	100.6	101.0	84.7	97.9	93.4
Salt Lake City, UT	95.6	94.8	86.9	89.8	101.1	100.9	100.9
Pocatello, ID	90.8	94.3	70.2	84.2	96.8	100.4	101.6
Highest U.S. City:	157.9 NASSAU-SUFFOLK NY	143.1 KODIAK AK	245.6 NASSAU-SUFFOLK NY	191.5 NASSAU-SUFFOLK NY	138.1 KETCHIKAN AK	202.2 KETCHIKAN AK	132.8 KETCHIKAN AK
Lowest U.S. City:	85.0 COOKEVILLE TN	85.8 AKRON OH	70.2 POCATELLO ID	33.6 WENATCHEE WA	78.0 WAYNESBURO PA	65.4 COOKEVILLE TN	84.0 CANTON OH

Source: *American Chamber of Commerce Research Association.

FREMONT, WYOMING

Fremont County's 1987 population of 34,900 ranked fourth in the state.

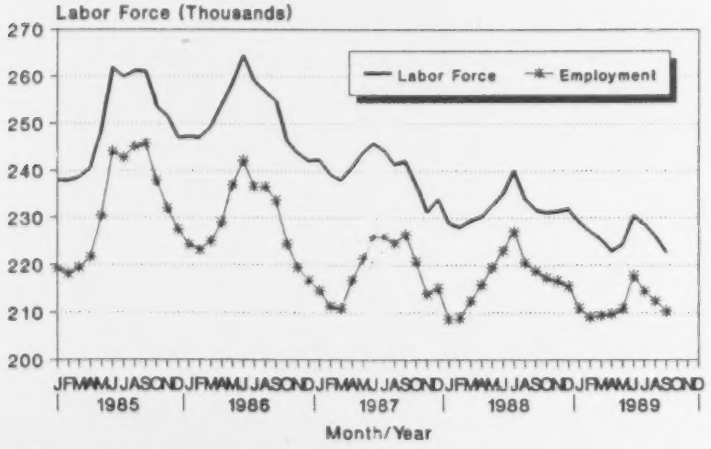
PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME - In 1987, Fremont had a per capita personal income (PCPI) of $10,344. This PCPI ranked 21st in the state, and was 81 percent of the state average ($12,706) and 67 percent of the national average (15,484). In 1977, Fremont's PCPI of $6,514 ranked 17th in the state. The average annual growth rate of PCPI over the past 10 years was 4.7 percent. The average annual growth rate for the state was 5.0 percent and for the nation was 7.8 percent.

GOSHEN, WYOMING

Goshen County's 1987 population of 12,700 ranked 13th in the state.

PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME - In 1987, Goshen had a per capita personal income (PCPI) of $10,920. This PCPI ranked 19th in the state, and was 86 percent of the state average ($12,706) and 71 percent of the national average ($15,484). In 1977, Goshen's PCPI of $5,947 ranked 22nd in the state. The average annual growth rate of PCPI over the past 10 years was 6.3 percent. The average annual growth rate for the state was 5.0 percent and for the nation 7.8 percent.

Wyoming Labor Force and Employment
1985 - 1989



Scale does not begin at zero.
Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics, BLS and Research & Analysis.

Consumer Price Index

(1982-1984 = 100)
All Urban

	Sept. 1989	Annual % change
All Items	125.0	4.3
Food & Beverage	125.9	4.8
Housing	124.3	3.7
Entertainment	127.8	5.4
Apparel & Upkeep	120.0	1.9
Transportation	113.7	3.6
Medical	151.7	8.0

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

WYOMING
ECONOMIC INDICATORS

TABLE 1

ITEM	SEPTEMBER 1989 [1]	AUGUST 1989 [1]	SEPTEMBER 1988 [2]	Percent Change From A Month Ago	Percent Change From A Year Ago
WYOMING EMPLOYMENT DATA					
Total Civilian Labor Force	222,779	226,052	231,619	- 1.4	- 3.8
Unemployment	12,478	13,531	12,908	- 7.8	- 3.3
Employed Labor Force	210,301	212,521	218,711	- 1.0	- 3.8
Agriculture [3]	11,941	14,176	11,929	-15.8	0.1
Covered Employment (Under WY UI Law) [3]	183,100 [6]	185,500 [6]	180,564	- 1.3	1.4
Total Unemployment Rate (WY) Seasonally Adjusted*	5.6% 7.0%*	6.0% 7.0%*	5.6% 6.7%*	XXX	XXX
Total Unemployment Rate (U. S.) Seasonally Adjusted*	5.1% 5.3%*	5.1% 5.2%*	5.2% 5.4%*	XXX	XXX
Insured Unemployment Rate (WY) [4]	1.0%	1.3%	1.2%	XXX	XXX
HOURS AND EARNINGS [5]					
Mining (Production Workers):					
Average Weekly Earnings	$ 608.40	$ 600.57	$ 612.90	1.3	- 0.7
Average Weekly Hours	45.1	43.3	42.8	4.2	5.4
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 13.49	$ 13.87	$ 14.32	- 2.7	- 5.8
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE					
Claims Filed in Local Offices	8,595	11,369	10,020	-24.4	-14.2
Initial	1,420	1,668	1,836	-14.9	-22.7
Weeks Compensated	6,168	8,912	6,605	-30.8	- 6.6
Total Amount Benefits Paid	$ 971,547	$ 1,370,740	$ 1,035,111	-29.1	- 6.1
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$ 156.85	$ 153.42	$ 156.07	2.2	0.5
EMPLOYMENT SERVICE					
Total Applications Received During Month	4,640	5,824	5,094	-20.3	- 8.9
Total Openings Received	4,159	4,030	2,866	3.2	45.1
Individual Placements	2,374	2,257	2,298	5.2	3.3
Placement Transactions	3,154	2,634	3,194	19.7	- 1.3
UNITED STATES DATA					
HOURS AND EARNINGS [5]					
Mining (Production Workers):					
Average Weekly Earnings	$ 567.17	$ 558.11	$ 541.00	1.6	4.8
Average Weekly Hours	43.0	42.8	42.2	0.5	1.9
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 13.19	$ 13.04	$ 12.82	1.2	2.9
PRICE INDEXES					
Consumer Price Index 1982-1984 = 100	125.0	124.6	119.8	0.3	4.3
Producer Prices, All Commodities 1982-1984 = 100	112.3	112.0	108.1	0.3	3.9
Food and Beverage, 1982-1984 = 100	125.9	125.6	120.1	0.2	4.8

[1] Preliminary. [2] Revised. [3] Not bencharmarked to current population survey. [4] Rate does not include claimants remaining benefits under extended benefit provisions. [5] Estimates include all full and part-time wage and salary workers in non-agricultural establishments who worked or received pay during the week which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employeds, domestic servants, and personnel of the armed forces are excluded. [6] Estimate based on historical trends.

WYOMING
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT

TABLE 2 (Prepared in Cooperation with U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

COUNTY	LABOR FORCE SEP 1989	LABOR FORCE AUG 1989	LABOR FORCE SEP 1988	% CHANGE AUG-SEP	% CHANGE SEP-SEP	UNEMPLOYMENT SEP 1989	UNEMPLOYMENT AUG 1989	UNEMPLOYMENT SEP 1988	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE SEP 1989	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AUG 1989	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE SEP 1988
Statewide	222,779	226,052	231,619	- 1.4	- 3.8	12,478	13,531	12,908	5.6	6.0	5.6
Statewide - Seasonally Adjusted									7.0*	7.0*	6.7*
Albany	13,679	13,115	14,679	4.3	- 6.8	425	442	549	3.1	3.4	3.7
Big Horn	5,191	4,831	5,002	7.5	3.8	328	277	341	6.3	5.7	6.8
Campbell	13,835	14,143	14,399	- 2.2	- 3.9	998	1,102	991	7.2	7.8	6.9
Carbon	6,653	6,883	7,041	- 3.3	- 5.5	440	473	421	6.6	6.9	6.0
Converse	5,552	5,504	5,709	0.9	- 2.8	333	400	395	6.0	7.3	6.9
Crook	2,495	2,681	2,693	- 6.9	- 7.4	107	204	149	4.3	7.6	5.5
Fremont	15,856	15,218	15,618	4.2	1.5	1,149	1,234	1,052	7.2	8.1	6.7
Goshen	5,300	5,287	5,646	0.2	- 6.1	175	228	231	3.3	4.3	4.1
Hot Springs	2,703	2,633	2,841	2.7	- 4.9	118	115	150	4.4	4.4	5.3
Johnson	3,376	3,468	3,467	- 2.7	- 2.6	127	179	176	3.8	5.2	5.1
Laramie	32,500	32,967	35,939	- 1.4	- 9.6	1,824	1,836	1,723	5.6	5.6	4.8
Lincoln	5,255	5,384	5,811	- 2.4	- 9.6	322	365	420	6.1	6.8	7.2
Natrona	28,387	28,740	30,356	- 1.2	- 6.5	1,830	2,077	1,789	6.4	7.2	5.9
Niobrara	1,134	1,105	1,381	2.6	-17.9	61	29	75	5.4	2.6	5.4
Park	13,657	14,874	13,586	- 8.2	0.5	701	783	566	5.1	5.3	4.2
Platte	4,824	4,696	4,569	2.7	5.6	234	265	218	4.9	5.6	4.8
Sheridan	13,240	13,189	12,558	0.4	5.4	635	650	586	4.8	4.9	4.7
Sublette	2,489	2,656	2,720	- 6.3	- 8.5	112	102	182	4.5	3.8	6.7
Sweetwater	17,297	17,359	17,971	- 0.4	- 3.8	1,121	1,398	1,318	6.5	8.1	7.3
Teton	12,670	15,041	12,206	-15.8	3.8	212	217	394	1.7	1.4	3.2
Uinta	9,243	9,024	9,648	2.4	- 4.2	799	717	774	8.6	7.9	8.0
Washakie	4,006	4,021	4,316	- 0.4	- 7.2	210	250	210	5.2	6.2	4.9
Weston	3,436	3,235	3,463	6.2	- 0.8	217	188	199	6.3	5.8	5.7
United States									5.1	5.1	5.2
United States - Seasonally Adjusted									5.3*	5.2*	5.4*

The ESC wishes to state that the data contained in this table are only estimates. The data for the current month is a preliminary estimate and will be revised next month, and revised yet again in about a year. The data contained in this table includes updated procedures mandated by the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. In addition, the 1988 data has been benchmarked to the Current Population Survey as conducted in Wyoming.

NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT IN WYOMING [1]

TABLE 3 (Prepared in Cooperation with U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT IN THOUSANDS			% CHANGE IN TOTAL EMP.	
	SEP 1989 [2] TOTAL	AUG 1989 [3] TOTAL	SEP 1988 TOTAL	AUG 1989 to SEP 1989	SEP 1988 to SEP 1989
WYOMING NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT					
Total Non-Farm Wage & Salary Employment	195.6	191.2	189.3	2.3%	3.3%
Manufacturing	9.7	9.4	9.4	3.2	3.2
Durable Goods	4.2	4.3	4.1	-2.3	2.4
Nondurable Goods	5.5	5.1	5.3	7.8	3.8
Petroleum & Coal Products	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	185.9	181.8	179.9	2.3	3.3
Mining	19.0	18.7	19.2	1.6	-1.0
Contract Construction	11.5	11.8	11.4	-2.5	0.9
Transportation & Public Utilities	14.7	14.8	13.5	0.7	8.9
Railroad Transportation	2.8	2.8	2.0	0.0	40.0
Transportation except Railroads	6.1	6.2	5.7	-1.6	7.0
Communications, Electric, Gas, & Sanitary Services	5.8	5.8	5.8	0.0	0.0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	42.9	43.7	42.1	-1.8	1.9
Wholesale Trade	6.9	7.0	6.9	-1.4	0.0
Retail Trade	36.0	36.7	35.2	-1.9	2.3
Food Store	5.3	5.2	5.2	1.9	1.9
Automotive Dealers & Service Stations	5.9	6.0	5.7	-1.7	3.5
Eating & Drinking Places	13.2	13.9	13.3	-5.0	-02.8
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	7.2	7.3	7.2	-1.4	0.0
Services	36.4	38.9	34.1	-6.4	6.7
Personal Services	1.8	1.8	1.9	0.0	-5.3
Medical & Other Health Services	7.0	6.9	6.9	1.5	1.5
Government	54.2	46.6	52.4	16.3	3.4
Federal Government	9.0	9.1	8.5	-1.1	5.9
State & Local Government	45.2	37.5	43.9	20.5	3.0
State Government	13.7	13.4	13.4	2.2	2.2
Local Government	31.5	24.1	30.5	30.7	3.3

See footnotes at end of table

NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT IN WYOMING [1]

TABLE 3 (Continued) (Prepared in Cooperation with U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT IN THOUSANDS			% CHANGE IN TOTAL EMP.	
	SEP 1989 [2] TOTAL	AUG 1989 [3] TOTAL	SEP 1988 TOTAL	AUG 1989 to SEP 1989	SEP 1988 to SEP 1989
CASPER (Natrona County)					
Total Non-Farm Wage & Salary Employment	27.7	27.1	27.3	2.2%	1.5%
Manufacturing	1.4	1.5	1.4	-6.7	0.0
Nondurable Goods	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Petroleum & Coal Products	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	26.3	25.6	25.9	2.7	1.5
Mining	2.9	2.9	2.8	0.0	3.6
Oil & Gas Extraction	2.7	2.7	2.6	0.0	3.9
Other Mining, Quarrying, etc.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Contract Construction	1.8	1.7	1.7	5.9	5.9
Transportation & Public Utilities	1.9	1.8	1.8	5.6	5.6
Wholesale & Retail Trade	7.9	7.8	7.8	1.3	1.3
Wholesale Trade	2.2	2.2	2.2	0.0	0.0
Retail Trade	5.7	5.6	5.6	1.8	1.8
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1.4	1.3	1.4	7.7	0.0
Services	5.6	5.6	5.7	0.0	-1.8
Government	4.8	4.5	4.7	6.7	2.1
Federal Government	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
State & Local Government	4.1	3.8	4.0	7.9	2.5
CHEYENNE (Laramie)					
Total Non-Farm Wage & Salary Employment	30.9	30.4	30.2	1.6	2.3
Manufacturing	1.4	1.3	1.3	7.7	7.7
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	29.5	29.1	28.9	1.4	1.2
Contract Construction	1.5	1.5	1.7	0.0	-11.8
Transportation & Public Utilities	3.3	3.3	2.9	0.0	13.8
Wholesale & Retail Trade	7.0	7.0	6.9	0.0	1.5
Wholesale Trade	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
Retail Trade	6.2	6.2	6.1	0.0	1.6
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1.8	1.8	1.8	0.0	0.0
Services	5.6	5.7	5.6	-1.8	0.0
Government	10.2	9.8	10.0	4.1	2.0
Federal Government	2.8	2.8	2.7	0.0	3.7
State & Local Government	7.4	7.0	7.3	5.7	1.4

1 Estimates include all full and part-time wage and salary workers in non-agricultural establishments who worked or received pay during the week which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employeds, domestic servants and personnel of the armed forces are excluded. 2 Subject to revision. 3 Revised figures.

RETURN IN 5 DAYS TO
Employment Security Commission of Wyoming
P. O. BOX 2760
CASPER, WYOMING 82602

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LAB 449

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Congressional Information Service, Inc.
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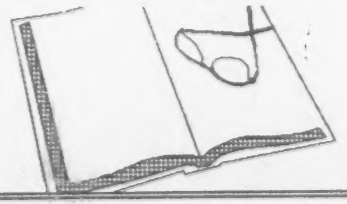
Wyoming

Labor Market Information



W Y O M I N G
LABOR FORCE TRENDS

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